

bill which the House will consider later this week.

The Republican leadership has labeled this bill the "Straight A's" bill. But as someone who knows a little something about education in this country, I can tell my colleagues that this bill should be called the "Straight F's" bill. The Straight F's bill fails our children, it fails our schools and it fails our taxpayers.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support flexibility in Federal education funds. As a longtime school reformer, I strongly support innovation that will improve education for all of our children. However, this bill fails to meet these standards in several ways.

The Straight F's bill fails our schools by undermining the national commitment to education, the Straight F's bill fails our children by eliminating the targeting of funds to high poverty areas, and the Straight F's bill fails our taxpayers by doing away with accountability standards and allowing tax money to be spent on ways that will not best suit our students.

Mr. Speaker, I call on this Congress to reject H.R. 2300.

We should reverse course and support school construction, teacher training, technology upgrades, after school care, year-round schools, School Resource Officers, character education and class size reduction initiatives that will improve education for our children.

USE THE BIG RED PEN

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, 9 months ago the President of the United States came to this Chamber and delivered his State of the Union message where he proposed a budget that would only save about 60 percent of the Social Security surplus and take the other 40 percent and put it into more spending. And here is where that spending rests in this budget proposed by the President of the United States.

Now, there is good news, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, the leadership of the House and Senate went to the White House and at long last the President now agrees with the congressional majority. He says he wants to save 100 percent of the Social Security surplus. Now, Mr. Speaker, the real work begins.

Mr. Speaker, I would invite the American people to do as one of our leaders did. Senator LOTT took a big red pen to the White House as a gift when they sat down to talk over the budget and invited the President to go through his massive spending programs and start using the red pen.

Let us cut out wasteful Washington spending, Mr. Speaker. Folks should dial the White House at 202/456-1414 and say, Mr. Speaker, "Use the big red pen." Cut Washington waste.

SOCIAL SECURITY

(Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I think I heard last January this President saying that he did not want to do anything with Social Security, that he wanted to put it aside to make sure that it was solvent, that he was not going to use any parts of any Social Security until we have fixed it.

Now, I do remember that. It seems like my Republican colleagues are continuing to say that the President is spending Social Security. It is outrageous for the Republicans to pose as defenders of Social Security, Mr. Speaker, when we know that they have raided the Social Security funds. Remember who these people are. They are the enemies of Social Security. They want to eliminate it through privatization.

Listen to this gimmick. Listen to the rhetoric. Please, American people, remember January of this year, it was the President who said that he did not want to use Social Security funds, that he wanted to ensure Social Security solvency and Medicare reform. Do not listen to the rhetoric of the folks on the other side.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BE-REUTER). Members are reminded again that they are to address their remarks to the Chair, to the Speaker.

STATE FLEXIBILITY FOR THE MINIMUM WAGE

(Mr. DEMINT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. Speaker, Americans are most secure when they are most free. Because of welfare reform, the poorest Americans in every State have begun to realize the benefits of freedom because we have asked the States to find jobs for people on welfare. The States have responded. In fact, the number of people on welfare in my home State of South Carolina has fallen by 63 percent in just 3 years. Over 70,000 South Carolinians now have productive jobs and have been set free from government dependency.

I believe it is time to give our States more flexibility so they can build upon these successes. It is time to trust our States with the minimum wage.

Mr. Speaker, another increase in the national minimum wage will make it harder to get people off of welfare. One size does not fit all and Washington does not know what is best for every State.

I urge my colleagues to support State flexibility for the minimum wage and help secure the future for Americans now on welfare.

VOICES AGAINST VIOLENCE

(Mr. UNDERWOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, there is a wonderful event going on in Washington, D.C. these past 2 days, and this is the Voices Against Violence event which is sponsored under the leadership of Democratic Leader DICK GEPHARDT.

Under this event, a number of young people, over 350, and their chaperons, have come to Washington to discuss the issue of violence in schools and safety in schools. I am proud to announce that our own representative, which ironically came the farthest to Washington for this, Joanna Manuel, a 10th grader at Simon Sanchez High School, and her chaperon, Mrs. Jennifer Shiroma, are avidly participating in Voices Against Violence.

As a former high school administrator, I know full well that the key to education is feeling safe and secure, particularly at the secondary school level where there are so many issues that young people have to attend to, so many temptations as they go through their development and trying to find their way in life and trying to learn content at the same time.

I want to congratulate the Democratic leadership for this fine event.

SOCIAL SECURITY LOCKBOX HELD HOSTAGE

(Mr. HERGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday congressional leaders and the President agreed not to raid Social Security funds to pay for next year's government spending. I wholeheartedly congratulate them on this agreement. Social Security was created in 1935 for the purpose of protecting senior Americans, not as a pool of cash accessible to those wishing to grow big government.

Mr. Speaker, this House approved my Social Security lockbox legislation 145 days ago. Yet, on six separate occasions, the minority party in the other body has voted to stop this Social Security lockbox legislation from even coming to the floor for a vote.

Mr. President, please join me in calling for the other body to free our Social Security lockbox bill they have held hostage for 145 days.

DEMOCRATS WILL PROTECT SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. UDALL of New Mexico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to tell you that our friends on the other side of the aisle have picked the lockbox on the

Social Security lockbox that they talk about so much. As Democrats, we have said that we would protect Social Security. We have done that in our votes and we have shown that consistently. That is not the case with our friends on the other side of the aisle.

Let us take the case of the \$18 billion; \$18 billion of gimmicks. One of them, almost a third of that is the U.S. census which has been in existence since this Nation started. That is not an emergency. They have said we have \$18 billion in emergencies. These are not emergencies. They are gimmicks.

What we need to do is focus in this body on making sure we do not raid Social Security, we do not rely on gimmicks, and we be truthful with the American people.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the pending business is the question of agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of the last day's proceedings.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 349, nays 57, answered "present" 1, not voting 26, as follows:

[Roll No. 515]

YEAS—349

Abercrombie	Capuano	Foley
Ackerman	Cardin	Forbes
Allen	Carson	Frank (MA)
Andrews	Castle	Franks (NJ)
Archer	Chabot	Frelinghuysen
Army	Chambliss	Frost
Bachus	Chenoweth-Hage	Galleghy
Baker	Clayton	Ganske
Baldacci	Clement	Gejdenson
Baldwin	Coble	Gekas
Ballenger	Collins	Gephardt
Barcia	Combest	Gibbons
Barr	Condit	Gilchrest
Barrett (NE)	Conyers	Gilman
Barrett (WI)	Cook	Gonzalez
Bartlett	Cooksey	Goode
Barton	Coyne	Goodlatte
Bass	Cramer	Goodling
Becerra	Cubin	Gordon
Bentsen	Cummings	Goss
Bereuter	Cunningham	Graham
Berkley	Davis (FL)	Granger
Berman	Davis (VA)	Green (WI)
Berry	Deal	Greenwood
Biggert	DeGette	Hall (OH)
Bilirakis	Delahunt	Hall (TX)
Bishop	DeLauro	Hansen
Blagojevich	DeLay	Hastings (WA)
Bliley	DeMint	Hayes
Blumenauer	Deutsch	Hayworth
Blunt	Diaz-Balart	Herger
Boehlert	Dicks	Hill (IN)
Boehner	Dingell	Hinchey
Bonilla	Dixon	Hinojosa
Bonior	Doggett	Hobson
Bono	Dooley	Hoefel
Boswell	Doolittle	Hoekstra
Boucher	Doyle	Holden
Boyd	Dreier	Holt
Brady (TX)	Duncan	Hooley
Brown (FL)	Edwards	Horn
Brown (OH)	Ehlers	Hostettler
Bryant	Ehrlich	Houghton
Burr	Emerson	Hulshof
Buyer	Engel	Hunter
Callahan	Eshoo	Hyde
Calvert	Etheridge	Inslee
Campbell	Everett	Isakson
Canady	Ewing	Istook
Cannon	Farr	Jackson (IL)
Capps	Fletcher	

Jackson-Lee (TX)	Miller, Gary	Sessions
Jenkins	Minge	Shadegg
John	Mink	Shaw
Johnson (CT)	Moakley	Shays
Johnson, E. B.	Mollohan	Sherman
Johnson, Sam	Moran (VA)	Sherwood
Jones (NC)	Morella	Shimkus
Jones (OH)	Murtha	Shows
Kanjorski	Myrick	Shuster
Kaptur	Nadler	Simpson
Kasich	Napolitano	Sisisky
Kelly	Neal	Skeen
Kennedy	Nethercutt	Skelton
Kildee	Ney	Slaughter
Kilpatrick	Northup	Smith (MI)
Kind (WI)	Norwood	Smith (NJ)
King (NY)	Nussle	Smith (TX)
Kingston	Obey	Smith (WA)
Klecza	Oliver	Snyder
Knollenberg	Ortiz	Souder
Kolbe	Ose	Spence
Kuykendall	Owens	Spratt
LaFalce	Packard	Stabenow
LaHood	Pascrell	Stark
Lampson	Pastor	Stearns
Lantos	Paul	Stenholm
Largent	Payne	Stump
Latham	Pease	Sununu
LaTourette	Pelosi	Sweeney
Lazio	Peterson (PA)	Talent
Leach	Petri	Tanner
Lee	Pickering	Tauscher
Levin	Pitts	Tauzin
Lewis (KY)	Pombo	Terry
Linder	Pomeroy	Thomas
Lofgren	Porter	Thornberry
Lowey	Portman	Thune
Lucas (KY)	Price (NC)	Tiahrt
Lucas (OK)	Pryce (OH)	Tierney
Luther	Quinn	Toomey
Maloney (CT)	Radanovich	Towns
Maloney (NY)	Rahall	Trafigant
Manzullo	Rangel	Turner
Markey	Regula	Udall (CO)
Martinez	Reyes	Upton
Mascara	Reynolds	Velazquez
Matsui	Rivers	Vitter
McCarthy (MO)	Rodriguez	Walden
McCarthy (NY)	Roemer	Walsh
McCollum	Rogers	Wamp
McCrery	Rohrabacher	Watkins
McGovern	Ros-Lehtinen	Watt (NC)
McHugh	Rothman	Waxman
McInnis	Roukema	Weldon (FL)
McIntosh	Roybal-Allard	Weldon (PA)
McIntyre	Royce	Wexler
McKeon	Ryan (WI)	Weygand
McKinney	Ryun (KS)	Wicker
Meehan	Sanchez	Wilson
Meeks (NY)	Sandlin	Wise
Menendez	Sanford	Wolf
Metcalf	Sawyer	Woolsey
Mica	Saxton	Wu
Millender-	Schakowsky	Wynn
McDonald	Scott	Young (FL)
Miller (FL)	Sensenbrenner	
	Serrano	

NAYS—57

Aderholt	Gutknecht	Peterson (MN)
Baird	Hastings (FL)	Phelps
Billbray	Hefley	Pickett
Borski	Hill (MT)	Ramstad
Brady (PA)	Hilleary	Riley
Clay	Hilliard	Rogan
Clyburn	Klink	Sabo
Coburn	Kucinich	Schaffer
Costello	Lewis (GA)	Strickland
Crane	Lipinski	Stupak
Crowley	LoBiondo	Taylor (MS)
DeFazio	McDermott	Thompson (CA)
Dickey	McNulty	Thompson (MS)
English	Meek (FL)	Thurman
Evans	Miller, George	Udall (NM)
Filner	Moore	Vento
Ford	Moran (KS)	Visclosky
Gillmor	Oberstar	Waters
Green (TX)	Pallone	Weller

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Tancredo

NOT VOTING—26

Bateman	Dunn	Hutchinson
Burton	Fattah	Jefferson
Camp	Fossella	Larson
Cox	Fowler	Lewis (CA)
Danner	Gutierrez	Oxley
Davis (IL)	Hoyer	Rush

Salmon	Taylor (NC)	Whitfield
Sanders	Watts (OK)	Young (AK)
Scarborough	Weiner	

□ 1108

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2670, DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 335 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 335

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2670) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes. All points of order against the conference report and against its consideration are waived. The conference report shall be considered as read.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BE-REUTER). The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LINDER) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HALL), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 335 is a typical rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2670, the conference report for the Commerce, State, Justice appropriations bill for fiscal year 2000.

The rule waives all points of order against the conference report and its consideration, and provides that the conference report shall be considered as read.

House rules provide 1 hour of general debate divided equally between the chairman and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations and one motion to recommit with or without instructions, as is the right of the minority.

I want to discuss briefly the conference report that this rule makes in order. The conference report appropriates a total of \$37.8 billion for the Departments of Commerce, Justice and State, the Federal judiciary and 18 related agencies, and focuses on the enhancement of numerous crime enforcement and crime reduction initiatives.

First, I want to say that I am pleased that the bill provides \$3 billion for State and local law enforcement assistance so that local officials can successfully continue their efforts to fight crimes against our citizens. This provision is \$37 million more than last year, including \$287 million for juvenile crime and prevention programs; \$523